

July 10, 2003

## **Public Notice for 401 Certification**

### **Cloverdale River Park Phase II Sonoma County**

On June 10, 2003 the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from Ms. Michelle Julene, on behalf of the Sonoma County Regional Parks (County), requesting approval for disturbances to waters of the state and other water quality impacts associated with the development of the proposed project.

Cloverdale River Park is located along the bank of the Russian River, just North of Cloverdale. The Park is being improved in several phases, the first of which included the development of a parking lot, group picnic site, family picnic site, landscaping and irrigation, new entry road, fencing, and multi-use paved trail construction. Phase II will include trail construction in upland areas, a bridge over Oat Valley Creek, a covered culvert crossing, parking areas, and re-paving work. Construction activities on the bridge over Oat Valley Creek will take place landward of the top-of-bank, therefore a 401 Certification will not be needed for the bridge. However, the covered culvert crossing will result in direct impacts to a water of the state and a loss of creek channel; a 401 Certification is needed to cover this activity.

A small ephemeral stream channel, tributary to the Russian River, crosses the proposed trail path. The Applicant proposes to install a 36-inch diameter, 30-foot long culvert with rip-rap at either end so that the trail can cross the ephemeral stream. Installing the culvert would require some vegetation removal (shrubs and herbaceous plants) and would impact 0.096 acres of stream channel.

Mitigation proposed for the project includes replanting the areas upstream and downstream of the culvert with native plants. The Applicant also proposes to hydroseed the area to prevent erosion and sedimentation. The Park will also include interpretive/educational brochures and displays that will provide information about the natural resources of the site, and the ways those natural resources can be protected.

At this time the Regional Water Board is in the process of reviewing the proposed project regarding the issuance of the 401 Certification Permit. In addition, the Regional Water Board will consider all comments received during a 21-day comment period that begins on the first date of issuance of this letter. If you have any questions or comments, please contact staff member Lauren Hocker by email at [hockl@rb1.swrcb.ca.gov](mailto:hockl@rb1.swrcb.ca.gov), or send comments to Regional Water Quality Control Board, 5550 Skylane Boulevard, Suite A, Santa Rosa, CA 95403.